## Quality First! Child Care Health Consultation

The role of the Child Care Health Consultant is to support early care and education providers in the provision of care which ensures the healthy development and safety of children. The consultant will also support the quality improvement process of *QUALITY FIRST!*, Arizona's quality improvement and rating system.

## **Consultation Process:**

- Enters process at the request of the Coach and/or the provider through referral process
- Dual-focus on activities and relationships
  - Communication strategies which maximize implementation and empowerment: attending and active listening, seeking and verifying information, encouraging, influencing and supporting
  - Ethics and Professionalism: self, relationship issues, process issues
- Key tasks
  - Health and safety assessment, as appropriate
  - Coordination with Coach on Quality Improvement Plan
  - Problem-solving and development of internal and external resources to promote health and safety in programs
  - Responding to questions and providing feedback
  - Providing staff training, as requested
  - Linking provider to community resources
  - Providing referrals, as appropriate
  - Collecting and reporting data

## Caseload:

Approximately 1 to 30, with variations due to factors such as geographical distances, program need, etc.

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	Education	Experience	Knowledge ( Content)	Skills (Process)
Child Care Health Consultant	<ul> <li>Nurse Consultant:         <ul> <li>Registered Nurse with a current AZ license, or</li> </ul> </li> <li>Advanced Practice Nurse with current AZ license and certification as an APN, or</li> <li>Physician's Assistant with current AZ license, or</li> <li>Physician licensed in AZ.</li> </ul> <li>Health Consultant:         <ul> <li>Health professional with Bachelors degree</li> </ul> </li>	CCHC 60 hr NTI Curriculum Training  Previous experience providing consultation to and interacting with early care and education settings, including family child care	<ul> <li>Child development and family dynamics</li> <li>ADHS child care licensure</li> <li>Accreditation systems</li> <li>Quality indicators</li> <li>Adult learning</li> <li>Community resources</li> <li>Caring For Our Children, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (provides health and safety standards for child care settings)</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Interpersonal communication</li> <li>Training of adult learners</li> <li>Facilitation</li> <li>Consultation strategies</li> <li>Collaborative problemsolving</li> <li>Culturally Responsive</li> <li>Working as a team with other coaches and consultants.</li> <li>Likes Children</li> </ul>
Supervisor	<ul> <li>Public Health Dept. or Community Health Center/Hospital</li> <li>IHS or Tribal Government with medical backup capability to cover reservation areas</li> <li>Within these settings supervision for consultants without a nursing background provided by a child care nurse consultant or a nursing staff with background and expertise in providing public health nursing services within a child care setting.</li> </ul>			

